

School Size and Enrollment 2007-2008

School Size	# of Schools	Percent of Schools	Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment
>500	51	6%	45,133	31%
250 to 499	162	20%	55,441	39%
100 to 249	162	20%	26,287	18%
50 to 99	128	15%	9,152	6%
<50	327	39%	7,392	5%
	830	100%	143,405	100%

Poverty Indicators

Poverty Indicators	MT	National	Rank
Age 5-17 in Families in Poverty*	18.20%	17.00%	35th
Percent Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch**	34.50%	N/A	30th

\*US Census Bureau 2005  
\*\* Common Core of Data, 2005-06 School Year

Public School Districts 2007-08

K-12 districts	51
Combined elementary (joint board)	105
Combined high school (joint board)	105
Single districts (156 el, 4 hs)	160
State funded districts	2
Nonoperating and annexed districts	9
<b>Total School Districts</b>	<b>432</b>

School Data 2007-08


Elementary Schools	445
Middle, 7&8, Junior High Schools	214
High School	171
<b>Total Schools</b>	<b>830</b>

Nonpublic School Enrollment (Self-Reported)

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	% of Total Enrollment
Private	8,064	8,490	8,707	5.6%
Home school	3,987	4,093	4,106	2.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,051</b>	<b>12,583</b>	<b>12,813</b>	<b>8.2%</b>

Dear Friends:

I am proud of Montana’s education system and honored to be leading efforts to build a bright future for our students. We have remarkable resources and talent in our communities, schools, and families. Our excellent public education system is built on educators, students, parents, businesses, and community members working together to invest in Montana’s future. If after reading “Facts About Montana Education,” you would like to learn more about K-12 education in Montana, I invite you to visit our website at [www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov).

  
Linda McCulloch,  
State Superintendent

About the Big Sky State

- Population: 902,195 (2000 Census); 957,861 (2007 Estimate)
- Size: 147,046 square miles (fourth largest state)
- Population density: 6.2 per square mile (2000 Census)
- State racial makeup: White 90.6%, American Indian 6.2%, Hispanic 2.0 %, Asian .6%, Black .3%, other .6% (2000 Census)
- School racial makeup: White 84.0%, American Indian 11.4%, Hispanic 2.5%, Asian 0.9%, Black 1.0%, Pacific Islander .2%
- 570 miles long, 315 miles wide
- Elevation range: 1,820 to 12,799 feet above sea level
- Borders three Canadian provinces and four states
- Headwaters for two major rivers – Missouri and Columbia
- Seven Indian Reservations and 12 Tribal Nations including one landless tribe, the Little Shell Chippewa
- Primary industries: agriculture, services, government (including education) and retail trade

For more information about Montana, contact:

- [www.discoveringmontana.com](http://www.discoveringmontana.com)
- Travel Montana (406) 841-2870
- <http://ceic.commerce.mt.gov> The Census & Economic Information Center (406) 841-2740

For more school data

- [www.opi.mt.gov/measurement](http://www.opi.mt.gov/measurement)
- [www.opi.mt.gov/reportcard](http://www.opi.mt.gov/reportcard)

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Facts About Montana Education



Distributed by:



Linda McCulloch, Superintendent  
Montana Office of Public Instruction  
[www.opi.mt.gov](http://www.opi.mt.gov)

September, 2008

Montana Public School Enrollment

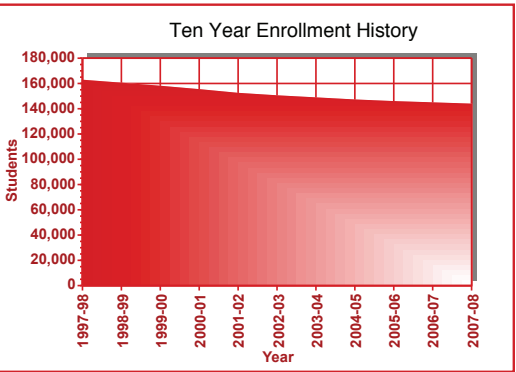
	2006-07	2007-08	% Change 2007 to 2008
<b>Elementary</b>			
Prekindergarten	787	805	
Kindergarten	10,409	10,681	
Grades 1-6	63,134	63,209	
Grades 7-8	22,527	22,096	
Ungraded	50	19	
<b>Total Elementary</b>	<b>96,907</b>	<b>96,810</b>	<b>-0.1%</b>
<b>High School</b>			
Grades 9-12	47,211	46,416	
Ungraded	140	56	
<b>Total High School</b>	<b>47,351</b>	<b>46,472</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
<b>State-Funded Schools*</b>			
Elementary (PreK-8)	31	22	
High School (9-12)	129	101	
<b>Total State-Funded Schools</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>-23.1%</b>
<b>Total Public School Enrollment</b>	<b>144,418</b>	<b>143,405</b>	<b>-0.7%</b>

\*The state-funded schools are Pine Hills School, Riverside School, and the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

Montana Public School Enrollment

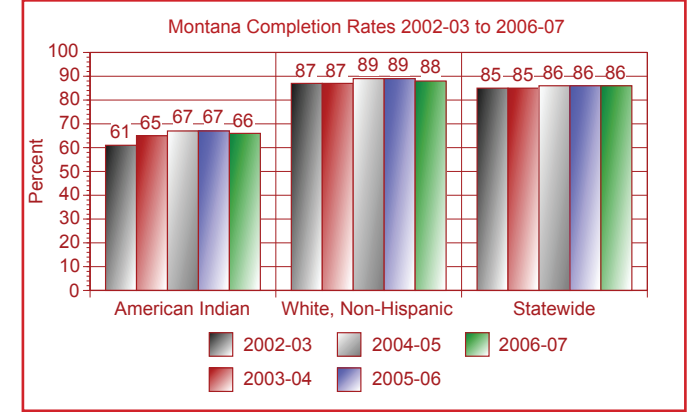
Montana enrollment peaked in the 1995-1996 school year. Since then, enrollment has decreased by over 20,000 students. The enrollment decrease is due to the decrease in Montana live births. In 2002, Montana had one of the lowest birth rates in the country. The number of live births started to increase in 2000 and is projected to rise in the next ten years. After declining for seven years, kindergarten enrollment began increasing again in 2003-2004 and has increased by 702 students from 2002 - 2003 to 2007-2008.

For the first time, since enrollments began to decrease, the declines are smaller for the elementary grades(-0.1%) than they are for the high school grades (-1.9%).



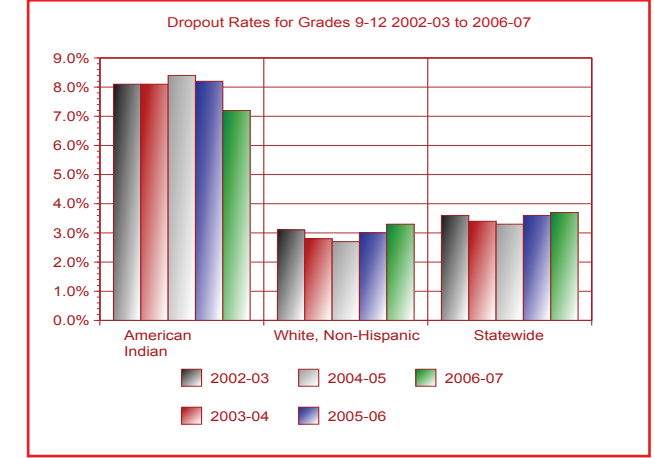
# High School Graduates

High School Graduates 2007 10,122  
 GED\* recipients (ages 16 to 19) 1,201  
 \* General Educational Development



Overall high school completion rates have been relatively stable over the past five years. The gap between American Indian students and all students combined is 20 percentage points. The gap between white students and American Indian students is approximately 22 percentage points.

# Dropout Rates



The 2001-2002 school year dropout rates have decreased 2.7 percentage points for American Indian Students. The gap between American Indian students and white students continues to be significant, but over the past 6 school years it has narrowed from 6.9 percentage points to 3.9 percentage points.

# Licensed K-12 Staff (Full-Time Equivalent)

**Teachers- Classroom, Title I, Special Ed.**  
**Total 2007 - 08 10,587**

Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents 141  
 Principals and Assistant Principals 528  
 Other Administrative Staff 74  
 Education Specialists (Library, Guidance Counselors, Etc) 957  
 Licensed Professional (Non Educator) 268

**Total Licensed Staff FTE 12,514**

Paraprofessionals 2,097

**Student/Teacher Ratio**  
 Montana average 14.3 2004-05 14.1 2005-06  
 National average 15.8 16.2

**Education Licensure 2007-08**

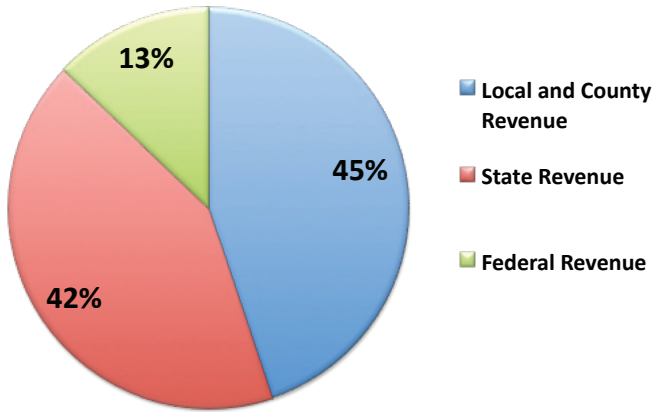
Total number of licensed educators 22,952  
 99.6% of teachers are licensed in Montana  
 98.9% of teachers are licensed and endorsed in their subject area

# Assessment

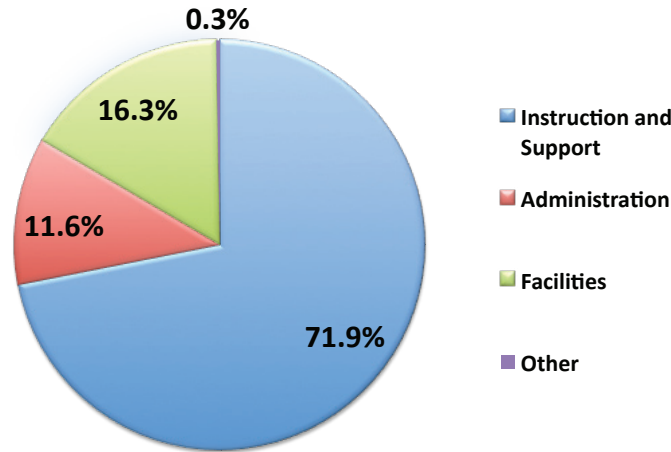
Test Scores	2006		2007		2008	
	MT	Natl.	MT	Natl.	MT	Natl.
ACT**	21.9	21.1	21.9	21.2	22.0	21.1
SAT*						
verbal	538	503	538	502	541	502
math	545	518	543	515	548	515
writing	524	497	522	494	523	494

\*\* American College Testing Program-- High Score 36. In 2008 56% of Montana graduating seniors took the ACT. Nationally 51% of graduating seniors took the ACT.  
 \*Scholastic Aptitude Test-- High Score 800. In 2008 24% of Montana graduating seniors took the SAT. Nationally 45% of graduating seniors took the SAT.

# Montana Public School Districts Statewide Revenues 2006 - 2007



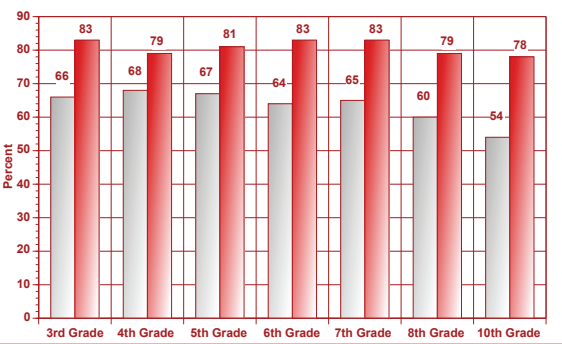
# Montana Public School Districts Statewide Expenditures 2006 - 2007



Based on the Standard and Poor's definition

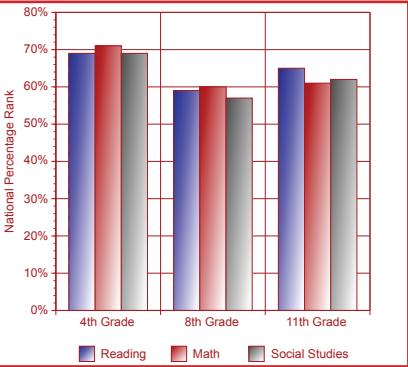
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# 2007 Criterion-Referenced (CRT) Results



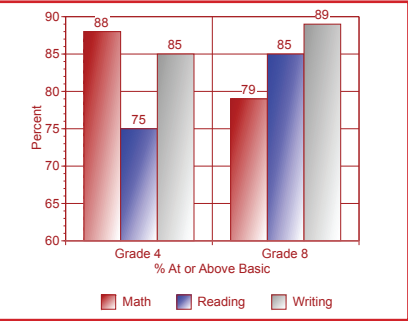
In Spring 2007, Montana students took the CRT test in the 3rd through 8th and 10th grade, measuring progress towards state standards in reading and math. This was the second year for the 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th grades.

# 2007 Norm-Referenced Test (NRT) Results



The NRT (Iowa tests) measures the National Percentile Rank (NPR). The NPR refers to the percent of students in the national norm group that earned the same score or lower than Montana students. The 2007 test was the last year that the NRT test was mandatory for all students.

# 2007 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)



The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), referred to as the Nation's Report Card, is a measure of student achievement in the United States.